

Haggerston School

Aspiration, Creativity, Character

Headteacher's Newsletter - 16th Nov 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been an excellent start to the year. Students have worked extremely hard from Year 7 to Year 13 to prepare for the examination weeks, which run this week and next. There has been a discernible shift in the pace and focus of lessons, largely due to the changes to the behaviour system, but also because of the emphasis we have placed on knowledge acquisition, revision and securing their DPR objectives for this first learning cycle. Students are now taught in three cycles across the year. The first ten weeks are the teaching weeks, followed by two assessment weeks. The cycle is completed with two weeks of 're-teaching' where misconceptions and knowledge gaps that were evident in the assessments can be addressed and secured. These final weeks also give teachers an opportunity to 'over-teach' where students have secured the learning from the previous ten week teaching phase. This is a strategy to stretch and challenge students which involves going above the requirements of the curriculum to extend students' knowledge. The INSET day on 10th December will be for teachers to analyse the data from the exams and plan the next stage of the curriculum in response to student's needs. We have made these adaptations to develop students' depth of knowledge and their mastery of subjects, both of which are crucial if they are to succeed in the new GCSE and A-level qualifications. We also feel this structure gives students and teachers greater clarity, so that they know what and when to revise. I hope the knowledge organisers have been a useful resource for parents when supporting at home. You will soon be able to log into the DPR assessment system and see how your child has performed in these assessments.

I also write to inform you about a vacancy on the governing body for a Parent Governor. Any parent with a child on the register of this school may stand as a candidate by completing the enclosed form and returning it to me by the date shown. You may nominate yourself if you wish. Governors play an important role in supporting the school and in making decisions about the quality of education provided for your children. For example, they are responsible for:

- working in partnership with the headteacher, senior leadership team and other governors to raise standards and improve outcomes for all children
- shaping the strategic direction of the school, assessing school policies and holding school leaders to account for the impact of school improvement planning and action
- helping to decide how the school's budget should be spent to best improve outcomes for students
- recruitment of senior leaders and the headteacher (as required)
- sitting on with staff disciplinary and pupil disciplinary panels
- linking the local community with the school

All of these tasks are shared between members of the Governing Body. Ahead of the closing date for applications we would invite parents considering putting themselves forward to meet with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors to develop a complete understanding of the role. This meeting will take place on **Wednesday 21st November from 8.30am – 9.00am** at the school.

Haggerston School

The term of office for parent governors is 2 years but you may resign at any time, and you will be able to complete your term of office, if you wish, if your child leaves the school.

Please use the attached nomination form which should be returned to Malissa Scalco (Headteacher's PA) no later than **2pm** on **Friday 30th November 2018**

If we receive more nominations than parent governor vacancies, then it will be necessary to hold an election by ballot so that all of our parents can choose who will represent them on the governing body. There are some circumstances that make people unable to be considered as school governors. These are shown attached to the nomination form.

Finally, a reminder that our Facebook and Twitter pages are now up and running and are designed to improve our communication with parents and make it easier for you to access news and information about school life. Please do follow us on <https://twitter.com/haggerstonsch> and <https://en-gb.facebook.com/HaggerstonSchoolHackney/>.

Kind regards



Ciara Emmerson

Headteacher

Upcoming Dates for Your Diary:

Event	Date	Time
Head Teachers Coffee Morning	Wednesday 28th November 2018	9:00 - 10:00 am
Inset Day	Monday 10th December 2018	All Day
Year 7 Parents Evening	Thursday 13th December 2018	5:00 - 7:00 pm
Student Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 19th December 2018	Lunch Time
Last day of term	Friday 21st December 2018	Early Closure 1:20 pm
Start of Spring Term	Monday 7th January 2019	School day starts at 8:40 am

PARENT GOVERNOR – NOMINATION FORM

Before completing this nomination form you should take note of the “Disqualifications” which prevent people from holding governorships which can be found on our Governing Body webpage. The Returning Officer will be able to provide you with further information if you require it.

a) Please complete this section if you wish to nominate yourself.

I wish to nominate myself as a Parent Governor:

Name	
Address	
The name of my child is (please provide full name)	
Signed	

b) Please complete this section if you wish to nominate someone else.

<i>I wish to nominate the person named below as a candidate for Parent Governor. I have approached the person I have nominated and he/she is willing to stand for election and has signed below.</i>	
Name of parent nominated (Please supply full first name and surname)	
Address	
Telephone Number	
The name of my nominee’s child is (full name of child)	
My name is	
My address is	
Signature of person making the nomination	
<i>I have read the notes on disqualification and I am eligible to stand.</i>	
Signature of person nominated:	

PLEASE NOTE:

To be valid, the completed nomination form must reach the Returning Officer **by 2pm** on **Friday 30th November 2018**

In this election the Returning Officer is: *Ms Ciara Emmerson – Headteacher*

PLEASE NOTE: You will be asked to complete a disclosure form about your eligibility to become a school governor as part of the school’s Child Protection procedures.